

Summary of F253 and Area VB

Lot #	Grid Unit	Unit Size	Layer	Feature	Comment
9284	219/298	2x2	N	253	F.253 exposed in this unit 9/21/87. Artifacts from Layer N can also be found under Lot# 9259
9334	219/298	NE quad of 2x2	O	253	S. 1/2 of the unit outside of F253. Subsoil exposed.
9516	219/298	NE quad of 2x2	P	253	edge of pit defined
9535	219/298	NE quad of 2x2	Q	253	Base of Q @ 55.87 meters ASL
9309/9318	217/298	E 1/2 of 2x2	N	253	caps F253 subfeatures
9335/9336	217/298	E 1/2 of 2x2	O	253	F253 A/D and F253 B exposed
9499/9500	217/298	E 1/2 of 2x2	P	253	P contained lots of charcoal, Plow scars exposed at 56.01 meters ASL
9533/9534	217/298	E 1/2 of 2x2	Q	253	Base of Q @ 55.87
9519	215/298	1x1	N-Q	253	N. edge of pit defined. Profile unit. 55.92 from 9253
9681	217/298	SW quad of 2x2	N	253	high f of domestic and kitchen trash
9703	217/298	SW quad of 2x2	O	253	
9713	217/298	SW quad of 2x2	P	253	Layer seen to be limited to pit

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Lot #	Grid Unit	Unit Size	Layer	Feature	Comment
9727	217/297	sw quad of 2x2 217/298	Q	253	floor of pit slopes east. Q bottoms out at 55.83 m. A.S.L.
9704	216/297	nw quad of 217/298 (2x2)	Q	253	Layer N removed during salvage operation
9757	216/297	nw quad of 217/298 (2x2)	P	253	—
9758	216/297	nw quad of 217/298(2x2)	Q	253	Base of Q/253 @ 55.82 m ASL
9409	216-217/298	—	M	253-B	needs new feature no. trash pit? "capped" by F253N
9386/9442	216/298	—	M	253-A	needs new feature no. capped by F253 Layer N.
9476	216/298	—	N	253-A	—
9468/9469	216/298	—	M	253-D	post mold w/in F253-A
9786	216/296	1x1	N	253	most of F253N removed during salvage operation
9933	216/296	1x1	Q	253	Fs, 527, 528, 532 defined
10081	216/296	1x1	P	253	—
10,082	216/296	1x1	Q	253	Base of Q/253 @ 55.85 m ASL
10,007	214/294	—	M	527	trench like feature. Cut through F253 Layers O, P, Q capped by N

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Lot #	Grid Unit	Unit Size	Layer	Feature	Comment
10,072	216/294	—	M	540 5/2	Small pit approx. 40 cms. west of west edge of F253
10,076	216/294	—	M	543 5/2	Somewhat larger pit features approx. 50 cms west of F540
10,049/10,050	216/296	—	M	532	Small pit feature cuts into F528. F532 is located at the s. end of F527 and may be associated w/ the latter
10,048/10,069	216/296	—	M	528	cut by 532, exposed at base of F253 N
—	216/293	1x1	—	—	map only
—	216/294	1x1	—	—	map only
—	216/295	1x1	—	—	map only
9,994	216/295	1x1	O	253	—
10,095	216/295	1x1	P	253	—
10,096	216/295	1x1	Q	253	Base of Q/253 @ 55.95
—	217/294	1x1	—	—	map only
—	217/295	1x1	—	—	map only
9304	215/296	2x2	A	—	excavated to expose F253
9305	215/296	2x2	B	—	F527 exposed

Summary of F253 and Area VB

Lot #	Grid Unit	Unit Size	Layer	Feature	Comment
9883	215/296	1x1 SE quad of 2x2	M/N	253	527 is capped by what has been called F-253 Layer M. This layer, however, is not part of the feature fill.
9969	215/296	1x1 SE quad of 2x2	O	253	
—	215/295	1x1	—	—	map only
—	215/294	1x1	—	—	map only
10,005	215/296	—	M	527	N-S trench feat.
10,045	215/296	—	M	527-A	A disturbance at the S. terminus of F-527
9888	215/297	1x1	N	253	edge of F253 defined
9889	215/297	1x1	O	253	
9909	215/297	1x1	P	253	In NW P overlay sub. elsewhere overlay Q
9910	215/297	1x1	Q	253	Base of Q/253 @ 55.83 masl
874	217/296	1x1	N	253	lump layer
9968	217/296	1x1	O	253	O overlay sub.

Summary of F253 and Area VB

Lot #	Grid Unit	Unit Size	Layer	Feature	Comment
9851	212/296	1x1	A	-	Summer wall's Trash
9852	212/296	1x1	B	-	527 exposed
9824	213/296	1x1	A	-	527 exposed
9835	213/296	1x1	B	-	527 exposed
-	214/295	1x1	-	253	map only
-	214/296	1x1	-	253	map only
-	213/304	1x1	N-Q	253	profile cut
-	214/304	1x1	N-Q	253	profile cut
9527	216/300	1x1	N-Q	253	profile cut
9536	216/301	1x1	N-Q	253	profile cut
9537	216/302	1x1	N-Q	253	profile cut
9520	218/299	1x.5	N-Q	253	profile cut
9517	218/300	1x1	N-Q	253	profile cut
9518	218/301	1x1	N-Q	253	profile cut

Summary of F. 253 and Area VB

Introduction

The excavation of Area VB was initiated to investigate features exposed in the backhoe trench with grid coordinates circa S224/E293. Test excavations began in July. Numerous features were exposed and excavated. These are reported elsewhere. Excavations in Units S219/E298 and S215/298 exposed patches of extensive features that were only superficially tested.

Sometime later, after a variety of manual and mechanical earth moving operations had enlarged the horizontal exposure in Area VB, more intensive investigations began.

As a result of the various scrapings the area received, several of the features exposed previously either disappeared (i.e. were incidental surface stains) or coalesced to form larger more coherent features. For example, in Unit S215/E298, F317 became part of the large dark stained designated F253, while Features 318 and 319

Summary of Feature 253 and Area VB

were scraped away, Area wide the result of the scrapings was the exposure and definition of Feature 253. This appeared as a large (see accompanying maps) dark stain which showed up clearly against the surrounding subsoil. This feature had been partially exposed during the Addis I field operations and was, at that time, designated F. 46 (see Check et al. 1988: 71 and Fig. 10). Purportedly, the exposed portion of F 46/253 was excavated to subsoil. The exposed portion, as viewed on the Addis I, Area VB feature distribution map, formed roughly the eastern one-half of the feature. Apparently the inclement weather that characterized the November and December, 1985, field season prevented an accurate assessment of the extent of the feature.

Once the boundaries of F. 253 were adequately defined excavation of the feature began in earnest. Over a six week period (9/20 to 10/30/87) the feature was tested with field personnel utilizing a variety of techniques. A graphic summary of the various "operations"

is attached. To briefly summarize: five one by one meter units were excavated using full stratigraphic control (beginning, that is, with Layer N of F253); seven and one-half one by one meter units were excavated without any stratigraphic control to ^{provide} north/south, east/west profiles (to be correlated with the profiles from the control units); nineteen other units (1x1s) were excavated in partially controlled to salvage fashion to examine areas peripheral to F253 and to test post features thought to be potentially associated with F253. In all 31.5 square meters were excavated within and around the feature.

Stratification

North and west of F253 proper a number of units were excavated in an area that had not previously been stripped by mechanical or manual means. These units were:

S215/E296 (a 2x2), S213/E296 (1x1), and S212/E296 (1x1). These units were excavated to expose a trench feature (F527) first exposed during salvage digging in unit S216/E296.

The A layer in these units was a generally dark to very dark loam (10YR $3/3$, $3/2$, $2/1$, $2/2$) that contained ash, charcoal, and in unit S215/E296 a lens of coal dumpings. This layer contained 19th and twentieth century artifacts. Despite slight variation in color Layer A was a largely uniform humic/topsoil layer.

Layer B in the units listed varied somewhat among the units. Generally it was a dark gray to brown (10YR $4/1$, $3/3$, $5/2$, $5/3$) clayey loam layer. The layer was lighter in color (brown) and contained a higher percentage of rounded pebbles in the northern units. Removal of this layer exposed subsoil, F527 and a patch of dark sediments that were similar to the top layers of F253 but were not apparently connected to the main feature fill layers.

Feature 253 M: This layer was removed at different times. Layer M in the eastern half of the feature had been removed during Addis I. In the west the M layer was removed in an uncontrolled

fashion in an early effort to expose the features in Area VB. Layer M of F.46 (V12, 253) was described during Addis I as 10YR 4/2, brownish gray, silty clay (Cheek et al. 1987:71). It was determined, during Addis II, that F253 M was not limited to the pit carried the F253 designation. Rather, it was a more extensive layer of midden-like soil that covered much of Area VB.

F253N: This layer varied somewhat over the area encompassed by F253. In most of the units it consisted of a very dark gray to very dark grayish brown silty loam layer (10YR 2/1, 3/1, 3/2, 4/1) described as "greasy" to the touch. It contained ash, charcoal and abundant artifacts. The artifacts generally dated to the 18th century. Layer N, where intact (or believed to be intact) was generally 10 cms thick. In unit S216 E 296 Layer N was described as dark brown to brown (10YR 4/3 - 3/3) loam. This layer, in addition to being lighter in color contained a high percentage of rounded pea-size gravels and was not greasy to the touch. Layer N in this unit did contain ash and charcoal. Overall, Layer N can not be

considered confined to the pit which can be described as F253 proper. Rather it covered the pit and spread over a larger area. In some sections of VB, Layer N was disturbed, partially excavated, or otherwise impacted by a variety of salvage efforts. In those units (see individual forms) Layer N was a "lump" layer composed of a mixture of sediments.

Excavation of Layer N exposed Features 527, 528, 532 in S217E296 (2x2). N also capped an undesignated pit feature observed in the North wall of S217E301. N overlay and partially filled a pit feature (undesignated) seen in the south wall profile of S216/E302. Layer N also overlay F253 A/D and F253B as seen in plan maps of S217/E298, however, in profile F253B may be interpreted as cutting through N. Removal of N - in some units (see individual forms) exposed the edge of F253.

F2530 : This layer was described variously, yet had an overall similar look and feel. Munsells varied from 10YR 4/4 to 5/4 - yellowish brown to dark

yellowish brown to 7.5 $3/2$, $4/4$, $4/6$ - 10YR $5/3$, $5/2$
 dark brown - strong brown - gray brown - brown.
 Overall Layer O can be described as a mottled
 clayish loam layer, greasy to the touch. It
 contained ash and charcoal and generally
 was 10 cms thick (see profile drawings). Layer O
 was difficult to separate from Layer P. Layer
 O in some areas appeared limited to the
 confines of the pit (F253 proper), see for
 example the 3+ meter profile along the
 S297 line. In other areas Layer O was
 excavated to reveal and define the
 boundaries of the pit.

F253P: This layer was limited to the
 confines of the pit (F253 proper) but was
 not a uniform zone throughout. Like
 Layer O, Layer P was variously described,
 however, the Munsells clustered around dark
 brown (i.e. 10YR $4/3$, $4/4$, $4/6$, $3/3$, $3/2$ $5/4$, $5/3$,
 $3/6$ and 7.5 YR $4/6$). It was a clayey
 loam layer and contained ash, mortar,
 charcoal, and a heavy concentration of
 artifacts. In the northwest portion of
 S215/E297 Layer P overlay subsoil.
 Layer P was largely absent east of the

E 298 grid line (see accompanying profiles). In S217/E298 plough scars (?) were exposed at the base of P. These were not seen in overlaying levels.

F253Q: Layer Q was described as a dark yellowish brown, yellowish brown to brown (10YR 4/4, 5/4, 5/3, 5/8, 5/6, 4/6) loamy clay layer. It contained charcoal, mortar and numerous bricks and brick fragments. Many of the bricks rested atop the floor of the pit and obviously were among the first deposits in the pit. Layer Q was identified in all of the profiles and was limited to the pit. Excavation of this layer exposed the floor and sides of the pit.

F253A Layer M: 10YR 4/1, 4/2, 3/2 dark gray, dark grayish brown, very dark grayish brown clayey loam.

F253A Layer N: 10YR 6/6, 5/6, 5/3 brownish yellow, yellowish brown, greasy, loamy clay. Excavator noted that F253A Layer N was similar to F253 Layer Q (see above).

Stratification, cont

F253 D Layer M: 10 YR 4/1, 4/2, 3/3, dark gray, dark grayish brown, dark brown clayey loam. Excavator noted F253D Layer M was similar to F253 Layer Q.

F527 M: 2.5 Y 3/2, 4/2 very dark grayish brown to dark grayish brown clayey loam. Some wood fragments.

F540 M: 10 YR 4/4 dark yellowish brown sandy clay mixed with 7.5 YR 4/6 strong brown sand clay. Contained small brick fragments, charcoal flecks

F543 M: 10 YR 4/4 dark yellowish brown sandy clay mixed with 7.5 YR 4/6 strong brown sandy clay. Contained brick fragments, charcoal flecks, oyster shell and a large number of artifacts and bones.

F532 M: 2.5 Y 4/2 to 3/2 grayish brown, very dark grayish brown clayey loam. Described as similar to F527M, Some F253 P mixed with F532M.

Stratification, cont.

F528 M 10%R 5/3 to 5/6 mottled brown, yellowish brown clay and loam.

Features

Feature 253 was the focal point of investigations in Area IBC (the portion of the Area reported here), however, numerous other features were exposed during the investigations. Some of these were given feature numbers and tested. Of this group some were designated subelements of F253 and designated F253A, F253B, etc., others were given independent feature numbers. Several other features were exposed during troweling and scraping operations conducted about F253 in an effort to locate pit features. The majority of these appear on the attached F253 plan map. Unless noted these features have not been given feature numbers. In addition, some features were exposed in profiles in units excavated to provide sectional views of F253. These have not received feature numbers. The following Table lists those

features in need of feature designations or
in need of new feature designations.

Summary of Features

Feature Description	Feature Location	Feature Designation	Tested Y/N	Current Status
large pit feature	see map	253	Y	feature designation needs no alteration
post hole/mold	S216/E298	253A/D	Y	needs new number
pit feature	S217/E298	253B	Y	needs new number
post feature	S216/E300	none	Y profile only	needs number
post feature	S216/E302	none	Y profile only	needs number
post feature	S218/E299	none	Y locational info only	needs number
post feature	S218/E301	none	Y locational info only	needs number
post feature	S218/E302	none	N	needs number
post feature	S217/E302	none	N	needs number
post feature	S217/E304	none	N	needs number
post feature	S214/E305	none	N	needs number

additional features drawn on F253 plan map not listed here. Map attached.

Feature Descriptions

F 253, a large, roughly kidney-shaped pit feature with irregular protrusions off either end. Body of feature measured 7.5 m x 4 m. with long axis oriented SW to NE.

Initially recognized as a large stain of midden soil (Layers M/N). As excavation proceeded boundaries of pit became defined. Pit was circa .5 m deep, was generally basin shaped with steep to moderate sloping walls and an irregular bottom. Feature fill described under Stratification heading. Generally two and maybe three layers restricted to the pit and at least two others in the pit and outside of the pit (but designated feature layers). Layers restricted to pit contained solely 18th cent. artifacts and construction/destruction debris.

It should be noted that late in the excavations the southwestern "protrusion" was seen to be separated from the body of feature i.e. the two areas were connected by layers M and N only. This area was given the designation F 531. This was done while I was not present and I can not

give any additional details. The subdivision occurred during salvage work and F531 was not tested *per se*. Rather, sections of what would laterally be designated F531 were excavated as F253. The F531 designation appears only on maps. (see forms for S217/E294, S217/E295)

F253A/D, a post hole/mold that was seen to cut through F253 layers O, P and Q.

F233B, a trash pit feature (?) excavated into F253. Seen to truncate O, P, Q of F253 proper.

F527, a trench, may have been wood lined extend north beyond our area of investigation. The excavation section measured 4 m N/S was approximately 20cm deep, varied in width 30-35 and in some area cut into subsoil while in other areas cut through what was called F253 layers O, P and Q (see profile). The walls were straight and floor fairly level.

F540 a small pit feature on the western periphery of F253, shallow (c 20 cms) with slightly sloping walls and near flat bottom. No apparent mold.

F543 another pit feature. Located a short distance west of F540. This pit feature had one sloping wall and one "stepped" wall and an irregular bottom. No mold observed. Contained a large number of artifacts and bone.

F532 a circular pit that became squarish at the bottom. Located at the south end of F528. It may be associated with the trench. Cut through F253 deposits (principally Layer P) straight walls / flat bottom.

F528 a squarish pit cut into subsoil. At the w. edge of F253. This feature was apparently cut by F532

Comments on the Stratigraphic Placement - Relationship of the Various Features

In profile F253B is seen to cut through F253 Layers N, O, P, Q and extend into subsoil.

F253A/D in profile is seen to cut through F253 Layers O, P, Q. It is capped by Layer N.

F527 cut through F253 Layers O, P and Q. It was capped by F253 N and in some places Layer B.

Bottom Elevations For F253

Unit	Elev.
S 218/E 300	56.09 to 56.18
S 216/E 301	55.83 to 55.82
S 214/E 304	55.98 to 55.94
S 218/E 298	55.87
S 217/E 298	55.87
S 215/E 298	55.92
S 217/E 297	55.83
S 216/E 297	55.82
S 216/E 296	55.85
S 216/E 295	55.95
S 215/E 297	55.83

Summary / Interpretations

Feature 253 was a shallow, irregular shaped pit that over time was filled with trash including construction/destruction rubble (brick, mortar, charcoal, ash) and domestic rubbish mixed in a clayey loam matrix. Whether or not F253 was originally dug as a borrow pit, a shallow cellar or as a purposeful trash disposal area is unclear. Arguments can be made for any of the interpretations (and others as well). Hard evidence, however, is generally lacking and what circumstantial evidence that exists is unconvincing.

A clay borrow pit can perhaps be expected to have been located somewhere on a plantation as large as Addison's. Such a pit, in turn, can be expected to have been an informal affair only as large as necessary to extract the amount of clay desired. Certainly given the very general normative expectations of a clay borrow pit, F253, could be viewed as an example of such a pit.

As noted in Cheek et al (1988: 76) root cellars are common at slave sites.

and F253 has many of the characteristics one would expect of a root cellar. Since it was not to be excavated very deep vertical side walls and post and plank retaining walls were not necessary. Also for storing roots (and miscellaneous) a formal shape was likely not required. The difficulty with this interpretation of F253 is that there are not a sufficient number of post holes (surrounding the pit) to represent a post-in-ground structure nor is there evidence of any brick foundation. There is a good alignment of three post features on the east margin of the feature but these have no counter part on the west side of the feature.

A trash disposal pit is also possible, but like a clay borrow pit, evidence of intent is not to be found in the shape or orientation of the pit itself. Some evidence for the veracity of this suggestion may be extracted from the MCDs calculated from the artifacts from the feature fill. A date from the middle of the 18th cent. or earlier could be used to argue against a purposefully dug trash pit. Conversely, a post-

mid 18th cent. date could be used as evidence that F253 was a purposefully dug trash pit but, of course, would not demonstrate the case.

Whatever its genesis F253 became filled with trash and loamy clay. The charcoal, ash and color of some of the sediments which suggested fire alteration (especially layer P), are indications that burning was conducted in the pit or nearby. Perhaps the debris from some construction event was piled and burned in the pit. The south end of the post-in-ground structure identified by Garrow and Wheaton (1986:273, Fig. 94) is approx. 10 meters north of F253 and their so-called potato house cellar is even closer (however only the former is of the same approximate age).

The trash could also be associated with the occupation of any other residence on the property during the 18th century.

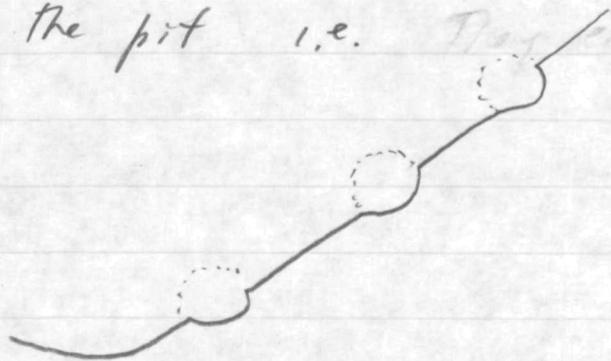
The various dumpings and (perhaps purposeful attempts to fill F253 resulted in the accumulation of a number of strata. Only the lowermost two strata are confined to the pit (P and Q) and Layer

P is not present throughout the feature. These layers are the principal fill layers associated with the initial use of the pit as a trash receptacle. Layer O is present within and without the pit proper and appears to have brought the pit back up to grade. The post features exposed in the pit profiles and also outside of the pit proper in the SW protrusion cut through these feature layers (i.e. O, P, Q). These post features are, in turn, capped and sometimes filled by Layer N of F253. Hence, F253 Layer N should probably be considered a feature layer associated with the reuse of the area.

This re-use may have involved a slave quarter or other sort of post-in-ground struct. The post hole/mold features 532, 253 A/D and the undesignated post hole features in S216/E300, S217, E302, and S217/E304 are aligned along an E/W axis and intersect with F527 a trench of unknown function but possibly a construction or ground sill trench (see accompany map). F253 Layers M and N may represent a ground surface associated with the later use of this portion of Area VB. There are other

post hole and/or mold features in apparent alignment. Three undesignated holes mark the east boundary of the pit (see accompanying map).

They parallel the long axis of the pit and are cut into subsoil thus interrupting the line of the pit i.e. *Disrupted*



These features were located and excavated during a salvage operation and no profiles were drawn. It is possible, given their shape, location, and lack of matching counter part on the opposite side of the pit, that they are spade marks from the original excavation of the pit.

At some point in time F253 may have been on the edge of a plowed field or garden.

This interpretation is based on the presence of plough scars in two of the units. In S217/E298 a single plow or planting scar became discernible at the base of F253 Layer P at 56.01 m ASL. In S215/E297 a plow scar was seen in the west wall profile

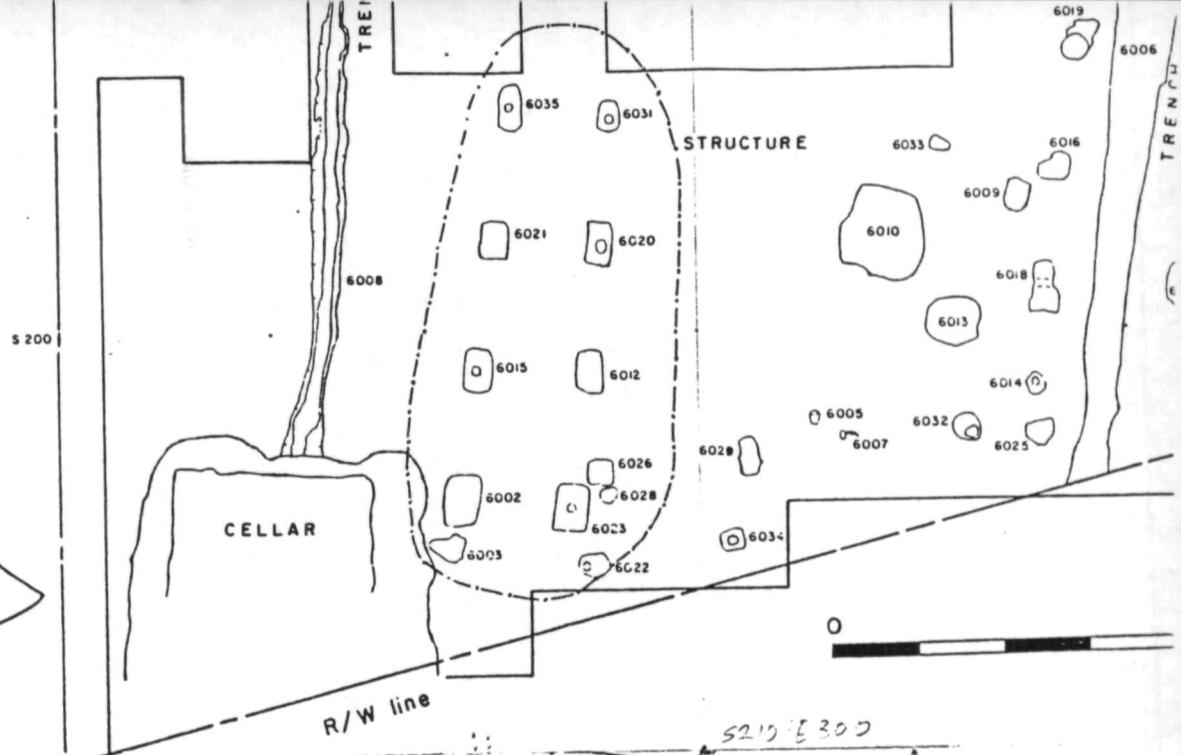
It was apparently cut into Layer O of F253 fill (at 56.90 m ASL). The scar in S 217/E298 seems to deep below the period ground surface to have been cut by a plow and maybe a planting scar cut by a spade. The other scar, observed within O, would seem to indicate an agricultural use of the area after the filling of F253. This scar maybe associated with the number of plow/planting scars exposed between S215/E286 and S215/E292 in Areas VA and VB. The scar exposed in F253 along the S217 line is the southernmost planting/plow scar exposed in Areas VA and VB.

- A schematic of events -

- 1) A pit excavated
- 2) over a relatively short time period mostly filled (F253 Layers P, Q) fill exhibits some evidence of having been near a heat source although artifacts do not appear burned (check this).
- 3) A third fill layer covers the pit obscuring its boundaries
- 4) These fill layers likely represent domestic trash from a nearby house

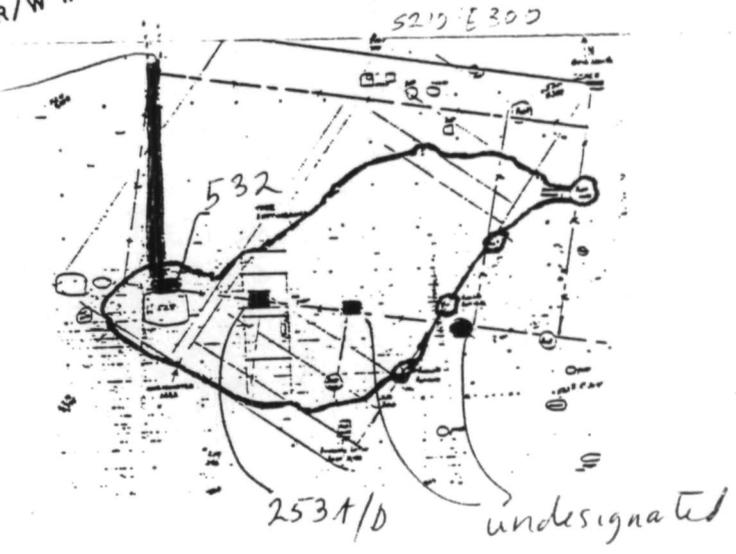
- 5) a post in ground - ground laid sill-structure erected - the south end of which is exposed in area of investigation
- 6) domestic refuse deposited around / within structure (F253 Layers M, N)
- 7) after abandonment area collects incidental trash (Summer Walker and earlier)
- 8) after abandonment a portion of the area came under plow

From
Garrow and
Wheaton
1986: 273
Fig. 94



F527

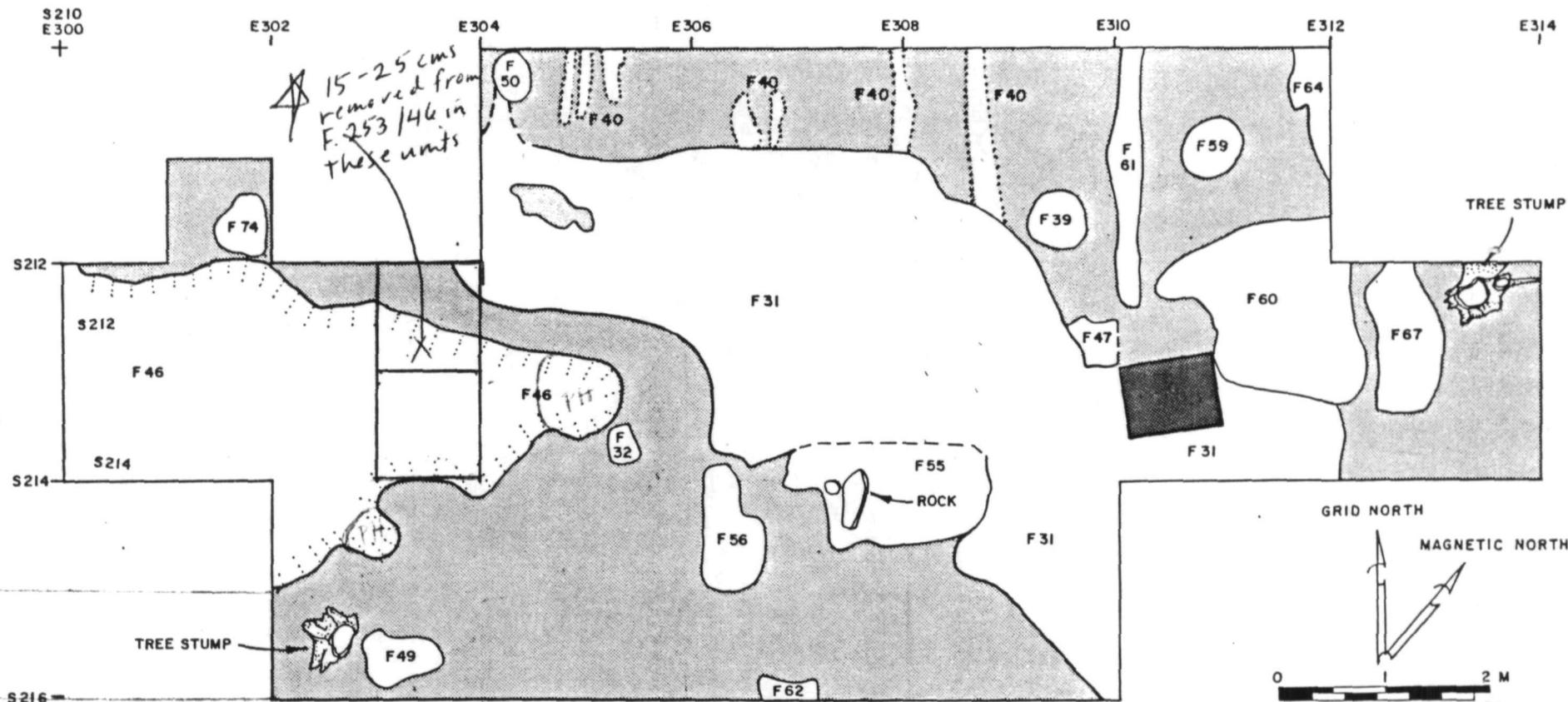
Figure showing
alignment of
Features 532,
253A/D and two
undesignated post
hole features
with F527 (trench)



From Check et al.
1988

Figure showing portion of
F253/46 previously tested

AREA VB FEATURES



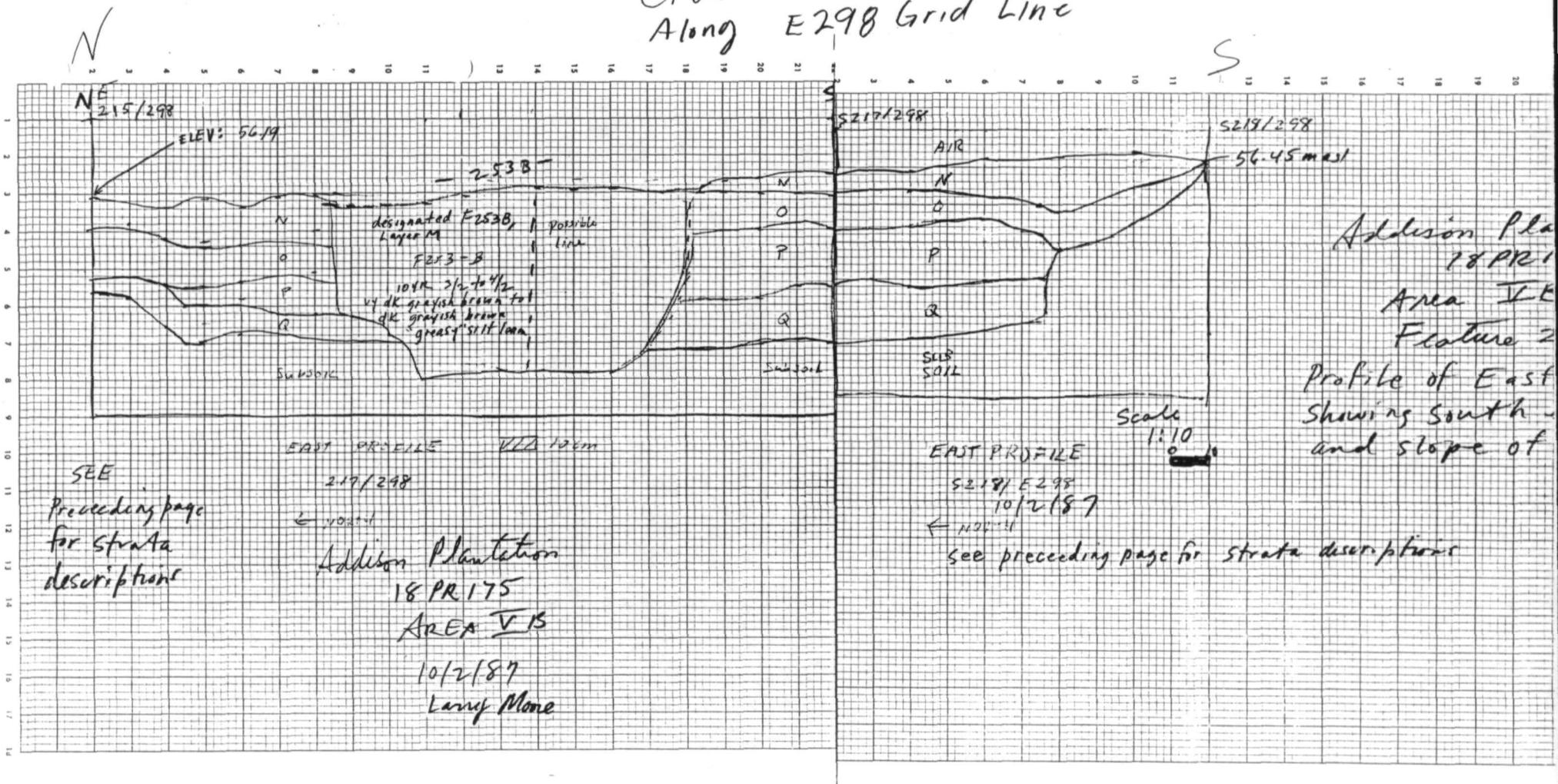
- feature
- 10 YR 5/6 yellowish brown clay
- test unit, (Dent et al. 1983)
- F31 large amorphous stain
- F32 root stain
- F39 possible posthole
- F40 plow scar

- F46 large depression
- F47 yellow clay stain
- F49 rectangular posthole and mold
- F50 circular posthole and mold
- F55 amorphous dark stain
- F56 posthole and mold
- F59 possible posthole
- F60 large amorphous shallow pit

- F61 possible plow scar
- F62 possible posthole
- F64 possible planting trench/
plow scar
- F67 amorphous dark stain
- F74 possible posthole

Figure 10

Cross-Section of F253 Along E298 Grid Line



SEE
Preceding page
for strata
descriptions

Addition Plantation
18 PR 175
AREA V B
10/2/87
Larry Mone

Scale 1:10
EAST PROFILE
S218/ E298
10/2/87
← 10cm
see preceding page for strata descriptions

Addition Plan
18 PR 1
Area V B
Feature 2
Profile of East
Showing South
and slope of

ADDISON PLANT
 18 PR 175
 PLANVIEW OF
 FEATURE Z53
 BY PAT O'HEI.
 2-October-1987

with improvement
 by L. Moore
 10/30/87

PLAN OF
 F 253,
 AREA VB
 SHOWING
 GRID UNITS

